UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI (62-46855) DATE: ATTN: RESEARCH SECTION DOMESTIC INTELLIGENCE DIVISION SAC, NEW YORK (100-87235) SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF BOOKS BOOK REVIEWS ReBulets 5/12/72 and 7/14/72. Enclosed herewith is one copy each of "Black America and World Revolution" by Claude M. Lightfoot. "No Name in the Street" by James Baldwin. ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED 2 Engles. Carded by 9-20-72 Au (2) - Bueau (62-46855) (Enc. 2) 1 - NY (100-87235) **RJL:chi** (3) E HUWIN 1601

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF

FERERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

New York, New York September 13, 1967

In Reply, Please Refer to

File No. BUfile 62-108763 NYfile 100-146553 9-18

SUBJECT:

TAMES ARTHUR BALDWIN

5/26/67 REFERENCE: MEMORANDUM

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Referenced communication contained subject's residence and/or employment address. A recent change has been determined and is being set forth below (change only specified):

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ACTING DIRECTOR, FBI (62-108763)

8/22/72

FROM:

LEGAT, PARIS (100-2660) (RUC)

.EC-61

JAMES ARTHUR BALDWIN RM - BN

Enclosed is a copy of the Express Magazine, a French weekly news magazine, dated 8/21-27/72, containing an interview with JAMES BALDWIN beginning on Page 68. In the event this is considered of sufficient interest the Bureau may wish to translate the article for information purposes.

Bureau (Enc. - LICLOSURE (1 - Foreign Liaison Desk)

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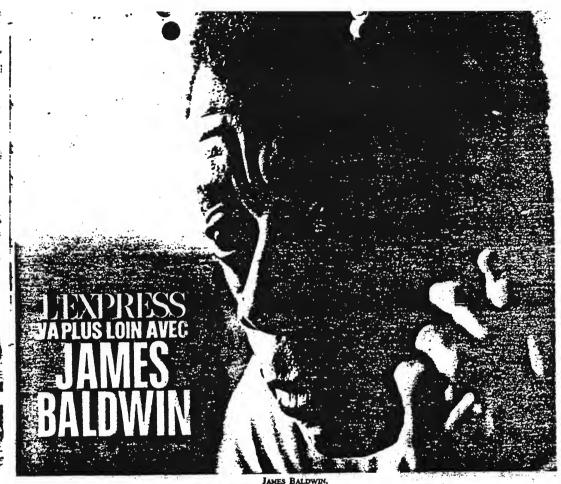
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Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

1603



Nous demandons qu'on nous laitse vivre. Un point c'est tout.

1952, c'est une chose que je n'arrivais pas à faire comprendre à mes amis à Harlem. Ma vie à Montmartre, La pauvreté, la faim, la saleté, l'angoisse de mon Montmartre à moi. Pour eux, Montmartre ne pouvait être qu'un fantastique paradis. Moi, j'avais vécu parmi les e misérables ». C'est-à-dire essentiellement les Algériens. Dans leur nostalgie de saveurs, d'odeurs, de soleil - et malgré leur présent sinistre leur situation était beaucoup plus cohérente que la mienne. Ils n'étaient pas venus en France pour y rester. Un jour, ils rentreraient chez eux. Mais nous, les Noirs, en Amérique, nous n'avions nulle part où aller : nous étions chez

L'Express: Et chez vous, on commençait à se détester? Que voulez-vous

J. Baldwin: La première fois qu'on est traité de sale pègre, on est un ce jourlà ?

enfant. Un tout jeune enfant de 5 ou 7 ans. On ne comprend pas ce que cela veut dire, mais on a le sentiment d'être méprisé. Et, ce qui est pire, c'est que l'on regarde autour de soi et que l'on s'apercoit que sa mère, son père, ses frères, ses sœurs sont aussi de sales nègres. On se rend compte brusquement que l'on est condamné à vivre parmi des gens qui vous méprisent, vous, votre famille. Vous cherchez pourquoi. Et vous découvrez la raison : parce que vous n'êtes pas blanc. Dès qu'un enfant maît dans une famille noire, son père, sa mère savent qu'un jour il rentrera à la maison en demandant : ' Maman, qu'est-ce qu'un nègre? » Plus ou moins consciemment, les parents essaient de se préparer à ce jour où il leur faudra répondre. Et d'y préparer l'enfant. L'Express : Vous vous souvenez de

J. Baldwin: Assez vaguement. C'était à l'école. Des professeurs blancs qui traitaient les enfants noirs de façon différente des autres élèves. Et puis cela a continué avec les policiers. L'Express : C'était à Harlem?

1. Baldwin : Oui, dans les années 20. C'était, à l'époque, un quartier blanc, mais très pauvre. Des immigrés italiens, finlandais, Harlem n'a commencé à changer, à devenir noir, qu'après la crise de 1929.

L'Express : Que faisaient vos parents? L. Balowin : Je suis l'ainé de neuf enfants. Mon père était ouvrier. Le matin, il mettait son chapeau melon, sa chemise blanche et son complet noir, et prenait sa gamelle pour aller travailler ... en usine. De véritables travaux forcés. Il était aussi prédicateur. Il gagnait 27 dollars par semaine; pour nourrir ses neuf enfants. Il était inévitable qu'il

L'EXPRESS - 21-27 eoût 1972

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### Il y a, aux États-Unis, un risque de clash social qui n'avait jamais existé jusqu'ici

devint fou... Ma mère, bien sûr, avait assez à faire à la maison. C'est à elle — aux mères en général — qu'il incombe d'inculquer aux enfants une dignité intérieure. C'est ma mère qui m'a fait comprendre : « Bon, tu es nègre. Mais ça ne signifie rien. Ceux qui te traitent de nègre, laisse-les dire ou bats-toi contre eux. Mais tu vaux mieux qu'eux. Et, de toute façon, moi, je t'aime. »

Elle est parvenue à nous faire croire que la chose la plus importante au monde, c'était de nous aimer les uns les autres et d'aimer autrui. Malgré la pauvreté, malgré la violence, malgré cette espèce de mépris dont les Noirs se rendent responsables les uns les autres, nous sommes finalement sauvés par une sorte d'amour entre parents et enfants. Même si le père ne peut rien, même si la mère ne quitte pas sa cuisine, on ne se sent pas rejeté de chez nous. Cela nous donne une force, un style.

L'Express : Et l'on réagit comment? J. Baldwin: Au début, on essaie d'imiter les Blancs. On s'efforce d'aplatir ses cheveux. On se lave quatre fois par jour, on s'exprime avec correction, on évite les gestes, les éclats de voix. Et puis on s'aperçoit qu'il n'y a rien à faire. On reste un sale nègre. C'est dans cet effort pour cesser de se mépriser que cela se révèle. Alors, on commence à comprendre et l'on agit selon son instinct, comme on a envie d'être. Mais c'est un voyage assez pénible. Jusqu'au moment où l'on se met à douter de cet héritage, on ne sait pas combien on en est prisonnier. L'Express : Si vous aviez 20 ans aujourd'hui, seriez - vous venu en France?

J. Baldwin: Il est difficile de s'imaginer plus jeune qu'on ne l'est. Mais je pense que je ne terais pas venu en France. Depuis 1947, la France a beaucoup changé. Les Etats-Unis et le monde aussi. Et les Noirs. Une des différences essentielles entre la nouvelle génération et moi, c'est que le tableau de ce passé que j'ai esquissé n'est plus aussi marqué. Le mépris qu'un Noir pouvait avoir de lui-même est beaucoup moins fort aujourd'hui. Le monde blanc n'a plus le prestige, la puissance qu'il a connus. Le dogme de la suprématie blanche n'a plus, aujourd'hui, la même valeur, la même infaillibilité. A l'extérieur et à l'intérieur des Etats-Unis. Je pense qu'un garçon de 20 ans est plus libre dans aa lutte intérieure que je ne l'étais à son âge.

Il n'a plus besoin de faire le même voyage. Peut-être songe-t-il à aller en Afrique ou en Amérique latine, mais sans doute pas en Europe, comme je l'ai fait, pour me retrouver. Les jeunes sont plus à l'aise que nous ne l'étions dans nos rapports mutuels. Il nous a fallu du temps pour nous accepter entre nous, nous aimer entre nous, nous libérer de cette espèce de cauchemar. L'Express: Comment cela a-t-il été possible?

J. Baldwin: Il y a plusieurs causes à ce changement. La première est sans doute économique. La misère des années 30 n'est pas, malgré tout, celle des années 50 ou de 1970. Par rapport aux autres Américains, les Noirs, dans leur ensemble, restent pauvres, défavorisés, mais ce n'est plus cette misère que j'ai connue et dont il semble que l'on ne puisse jamais sortir. Et puis, il y a eu la libération africaine, après la décolonisation. Tout cela a donné aux jeunes Noirs d'aujourd'hui une sorte d'ouverture qui n'existait pas dans ma génération : leurs luttes, leur façon de voir leur avenir, la vie, le monde, la possibilité d'entrevoir comment changer ce monde, c'est pour moi un grand espoir. Cela ne liquide pas la génération précédente, mais cela me donne, en quelque sorte, une nouvelle vie, comme des enfants peuvent le faire. C'est pour cela qu'on a des enfants.

L'Express: Ces jeunes Noirs, ils essaient de faire autre chose que ce que vous avez fait?

I. Baldwin: Oui. Mais cette prise de conscience est sortie de quelque chose d'existant. Comme ma génération, comme moi-même je suis sorti de quelque chose. Mon esprit n'a pas uniquement été formé dans le cadre officiel américain. Il s'est forgé, aussi, dans la cuisine de ma mère, dans les rues de Harlem.

L'Express: Depuis votre enfance, votre adolescence, des pas ont été faits vers l'intégration. La jeunesse noire est pourtant, aujourd'hui, beaucoup plus radicale que vous ne l'étiez. Pourquoi? J. Baldwin: Parce qu'il ne s'agit nullement de pas, mais de simples gestes. Il est toujours difficile, pour la plupart des Noirs, de gagner convenablement leur vie, d'avoir un avenir concret, et même, s'ils sont sur les bancs de l'université, de se lier avec des Blancs. La société n'a pas changé, les syndicats n'ont pas changé. Et là où des villes sont devenues presque entièrement noires, on ne sait pas ce que l'on va

Le radicalisme des Noirs, il se super-

pose, aujourd'hui, à une panique générale des Blancs et à une sorte de doute, de dégoût de la jeunesse noire ou blanche — sous le coup de la guerre du Vietnam. Il y a, aux Etats-Unis, un risque de clash social qui n'avait jamais existé jusqu'ici.

L'Express : La prise de conscience politique est beaucoup plus aiguë, beaucoup plus précoce qu'il y a trente ans? J. Baldwin: C'est certain. Le problème est beaucoup plus visible, la situation est beaucoup plus claire aujourd'hui. J'étais, moi, déjà adulte, lorsque est venue cette prise de conscience. Aujourd'hui, par exemple, il n'est pas possible de vivre en Californie, sous l'œil bienveillant du gouverneur Ronald Reagan, sans comprendre quelque chose. Les flics de Californie, ce sont les hommes mêmes, que John Steinbeck a décrits dans Les Raisins de la colère ». Ils vivaient dans la misère, ils ont traversé les plaines. Ils sont tous devenus flics en Californie. Le flic californien, c'est un personnage terrifiant. Mais il travaille, finalement, pour M. Reagan.

L'Express: Marx, Lénine, pour un Noir américain, c'est une réalité concrète?

J. Baldwin: Ma vision n'est pas purement politique, parce que je parle en écrivain, c'est-à-dire que je conserve, bon gré, mal gré, une certaine distance. Et que, dans ma jeunesse, le problème ne se posait pas de cette manière. Le Parti communiste américain était. à l'époque, essentiellement composé de Blancs, qui n'étaient pas libérés de leur peur de Blancs parce qu'ils appartenaient au P.c. Les Noirs qui y militaient se trouvaient dans une situation bizarre, à la fois appelés camarades, mais traités en nègres. Lorsqu'il s'agissait de sortir avec des Noirs, d'aller danser avec eux, de jouer aux cartes avec eux, ils étaient plus rigides encore que les Blancs non communistes. Et, par-dessus le marché, ils prétendaient nous donner les cless de notre libération. .

Ils savalent, eux, ce qu'il nous fallait.
Ce qui n'avait aucun rapport avec nos
aspirations, nos possibilités. Pire que
cela, dans l'affaire Ecotisboro, par
exemple, dans les années 30, le P.c.
américain a utilisé ces garçons noirs,
accusés d'avoir violé des Blanches, de
simples ouvriers, qui n'y comprenaient
rien, pour faire une démonstration
politique et abstraite. Il n'a réussi qu'à
en faire des martyrs. A quoi bon ?
Les jeunes Noirs, aujourd'hui, quand
ils ont une conscience politique, se

tournent plutôt vers la Chine ou l'Amérique latine. De la Russie, ils se méfient, comme ils se méfient de tout le monde

L'Express: La révolution est, pour vous, inévitable?

J. Baidwin : Le mot révolution, il est facile de l'utiliser. Il est beaucoup plus difficile de préciser ce que l'on entend par révolution. Dans une situation aussi complexe que celle des Etats-Unis, c'est un mot qui ne veut pas dire grand-chose. Mais si vous voulez dire que, pour les Noirs, l'intégration dans les structures actuelles des Etats-Unis est impossible, alors oui. Car ces structures ont précisément été créées pour les exclure.

Tout a commencé après la guerre de Sécession, après l'abolition de l'esclavage. Le Nord et le Sud avaient, en fait, également besoin des Noirs pour réaliser des profits. Le Sud a libéré les esclaves, du point de vue légal, mais ces hommes libérés sont redevenus esclaves dans le Nord. Ils ont été jetés dans une condition pire encore: l'esclavage économique. L'abolition de l'esclavage a simplement permis à l'industriel de Nouvelle-Angleterre de faire tourner ses usines grâce à la main-d'œuvre noire du

Mississippi. Esclavage économique, esclavage intellectuel. Aujourd'hui encore, qu'apprend un enfant noir à l'école? Les manuels le décrivent comme un être inférieur, un sous-Tarzan...

L'Express: Qui était d'ailleurs fils d'un lord anglais...

J. Baldwin: Oui, ironie... Bref, un sauvage qui a eu beaucoup de chance que des chrétiens aient le courage d'affronter la jungle pour le sauver et l'emmener en Amérique. Voilà l'Histoire enseignée aux enfants américains. On a essayé sans succès de changer ces manuels. Ce serait un scandale en Alabama, en Caroline, dans le pays tout entier.

L'Express : C'est une volonté délibérée ?

J. Baldwin: C'est le but même du système d'éducation. L'enfant noir continue d'être éduqué pour être esclave. Comment peut-il, à l'école, avoir une idée de sa propre identité, de sa propre valeur? Lorsqu'il quitte l'école, à 17 ans, il est déjà, psychologiquement, conditionné. Et le travail qu'il trouve est généralement le plus minable. Le Garment Center, ce gigantesque centre de la confection. New York, c'est l'illustration même du travail des Noirs. Toutes les tâches les

plus rebutantes sont réservées aux Noirs et aux Portoricains, sous la protection vigilante du plus raciste des syndicats.

L'esclavage se perpétue même dans la vie privée. Le Noir qui a le malheur de tomber amoureux d'une Blanche et de lui faire un enfant risque encore la prison à vie.

L'Express : Il n'y a pas d'issue possible?

J. Baldwin: Je n'en vois pas. Il y a un mur qui, peut-être, se nomme l'Histoire. Des attitudes avec lesquelles on a vécu si longtemps qu'on ne sait pas comment faire pour s'en libérer. Un terrain si usé qu'on ne pourrait plus y construire. Un vocabulaire qui, de part et d'autre, n'a pas le même sens. Il n'y a même pas de termes, de langage communs. Qu'est-il possible de faire avec un M. Nixon, un M. Reagan, ou le leader du syndicat de la confection? Les structures américaines sont condamnées à mort. Ce n'est qu'après leur chute qu'on pourra commencer à parler d'espoir.

L'Express : Vous croyez à la victoire

possible de la minorité noire?

J. Baldwin: Nous représentons un dixième environ de la population américaine. Sans parler de faire la révolution, c'est certainement suffisant pour détruire la société.

L'Express : De quelle façon ?

J. Baldwin: Il nous est facile, par exemple, de rendre les villes inhabi-tables. Ce sont les Noirs qui forment le gros des services urbains. Dans l'immeuble, nous sommes, nous, à la cave, et la cave commande la vie des étages. C'est très simple. Pour organiser ce type de résistance, il n'est pas nécessaire d'être très nombreux. Et la guerre du Vietnam est, à cet égard, très significative. Que le pays le plus puissant du monde n'arrive pas, en douze ans, à venir à bout d'un des pays les plus pauvres et sous-déve-loppés du globe, cela fait réfléchir beaucoup de Noirs.

L'Express : Il y a déjà des symptômes de cet ébranlement?

J. Baldwin: Ce qui s'est passé, récemment, dans les prisons américaines, est très grave. Et très révélateur. Il y a des années que l'on connaît la situation de ces prisons. Mais l'Administration américaine n'a ni l'imagination ni les moyens nécessaires pour changer la situation. Et d'ailleurs, maintenant, il est trop tard. Mais jusqu'à quand réusairont-ils à garder leurs prisonniers? Et tous ces prisonniers ont des rela-

Suite page 72

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BALDWIN Suite de la page 7

### Le Noir paie, chaque jour, pour l'Histoire écrite dans la couleur de sa peau

is avec l'extérieur. A Attica, les nes qui ont été tués au cours de neute ont été enterrés avec tous les ineurs, comme des héros. Mais, idant une semaine, on n'a même su combien il y avait eu de morts mi les Noirs.

xpress: La violence, pour vous, nécessaire ou seulement inévitable? Saldwin: On ne peut pas parler la violence comme si elle devait produire demain. Elle est déjà là, est installée. Mais la violence où, tre qui? Lorsque le président ton déclarait: « Nous ne tolérerons s la violence », je me suis toujours nandé à qui il parlait. Qui ne doit s tolérer? Lui? Ou nous? Car les ncipales victimes de la violence amérine, ce sont les Noirs. Je préfeais, certes, que l'on puisse éviter les ontements violents. Mais cela ne end pas des Noirs. Le choix n'est entre leurs mains.

xpress: Vous êtes rentré aux its-Unis, en 1957, parce que vous tiez que quelque chose bougeait. inze ans plus tard, vous avez décidé vivre en France. Pourquoi?

Baldwin: J'ai décidé de revenir en nnce, puis d'y rester, après l'assassinat Martin Luther King, en avril 1968. i hésité pendant deux ans. Et puis, senti qu'il fallait que je m'éloigne ur pouvoir recommencer. Comme rivain, comme militant politique, mme homme. La mort de Luther ng, c'est la fin d'une certaine époque la politique américaine à laquelle iété mêlé de près. La fin, aussi, d'un tain espoir.

Express: La voie choisie par Martin ther King, c'était une issue possible?

Baldwin: Je ne sais pas. Il est diffie, aujourd'hui, de le dire. Peut-être moyens utilisés par Martin n'étaient-pas, à terme, les plus efficaces, mais taient, à l'époque, les plus puissants.: toute façon, je n'aurais pu suporter l'idée de rester en France, alors se l'on tentalt, chez moi, de changer selque chose. Je suis rentré pour me ettre au travail, aux côtés de Martin

de Malcolm X.

Express: C'est cet espoir qui s'est isé avec la mort de Luther King?

Baldwin: Oui. Un espoir dans la

oralité américaine.

'Express: Vous vous êtes rendu ampte, ce jour-là, que les Américains avoulaient pas jouer le jeu du montre de la contre de la c

Baldwin: C'était le jeu du menonge. Et c'est beaucoup plus grave u'on ne le pense. Car ce sont les

institutions mêmes qui sont en cause. L'Express: Martin Luther King était pasteur, chrétien et protestant. Et ces institutions, elles sont précisément liées, en Amérique, à l'idéologie. à la religion chrétiennes. N'y a-t-il pas là une contradiction?

J. Baldwin : C'est là toute l'ironie de l'histoire des Noirs américains. On nous a donné cette religion lorsqu'on nous a débarqués en Amérique. Nous l'avons prise, en assumant votre Jésus-Christ, mais nous l'avons transformée, sans même nous en rendre compte, en une espèce d'outil à notre usage. Les negro spirituals sont, pour la plupart, une sorte de code entre les esclaves. Une chanson comme « Steel away to Jesus » n'a rien à voir avec Jésus. Elle permettait un dialogue entre les esclaves. C'était une façon de dire : « La route est libre. Tu peux partir. » Tout le langage noir américain vient de là.

Pour Martin, l'Eglise, c'était notre seul forum, le seul endroit où nous étions ensemble, entre nous. Mais il pensait, peut-être avec une certaine naiveté, que cette Eglise, aux structures démocratiques, avait une valeur. Comme une lettre de crédit, dont le débiteur doit s'acquitter. Cela supposait que le peuple américain honore sa créance. Elle n'a pas été honorée.

C'était un pari sur l'honneur américain. Même ceux qui n'aimaient pas Martin, ou qui n'étaient pas d'accord avec lui, avaient du respect pour cet homme. Qu'il puisse, dans notre pays, avoir une telle fin, c'étalt si choquant, cela nous obligeait à ouvrir les yeux pour regarder autour de nous et découvrir une autre réalité. Malgré les pétitions, les collectes, les marches, les gens restaient en prison, J. Edgar Hoover restait chef du F.b.i., et Nixon s'installait à la Maison-Blanche. Il fallait donc trouver d'autres moyens de nous libérer. Lesquels? J'ai commencé à comprendre qu'il ne m'appartenait pas d'en décider.

L'Express : Et vous êtes rentré en

France?

J. Baldwin: Oul, pour respirer. Etprendre, à nouveau, du recul. Essayer
d'y voir clair. J'avais été très lié au
mouvement des Panthères noires, et je
craignais, désormais, d'ètre inutile pour
eux, si, moi-même, je ne faisais pas
d'abord un bilan. Ce qui se fera se
fera par les jeunes dans un monde
différent, déjà, du mien. Le seul moyen
de les aider, c'est d'apporter son
témoignage. De les écouter, de les
respecter, avec l'espoir, parfois, de se
faire entendre. Je suis, après tout,

d'abord un écrivain. Si je ne trouve pas le temps de réfléchir, d'écrire, je ne serai plus d'aucune utilité, à personne. Je n'ai plus de raison d'être. L'exprese : Comment vous situezvous par rapport à Angela Davis?

J. Baldwin : Je ne la connais pas personnellement. Elle est beaucoup plus jeune que moi. Elle appartient à une autre génération. Celle que je ne peux qu'écouter et essayer d'aider, en étant là. Ce que je sais, c'est que son procès est absurde. Elle a l'unique tort d'être un mauvais exemple pour les autres esclaves. Angela Davis comme Paul Robeson sont, aux yeux des Blancs, de mauvais nègres.

L'Expresa : C'est-à-dire ? J. Baldwin: Paul Robeson allait dans le monde, comme si ce monde lui appartenait. Le Blanc ne peut pas supporter d'être entouré de terres noires. Il faut vite faire un exemple. Angela Davis a répondu à Reagan qu'elle était communiste. Le problème n'est pas ce dont elle est accusée. Qu'importe la réponse lorsque l'on vous demande ce que l'on n'a pas le droit de vous demander. Ce qui est important, pour moi, c'est de sentir, chez elle, une véritable impulsion, une véritable liberté. Que je sois d'accord ou non avec ses idées n'a rien à voir. Parce que, ayant vingt ans de plus qu'elle, j'ai forcément une autre optique. De toute façon, elle est victime. Donc, elle est ma sœur.

ma scut. L'Express: Pour vous, le dialogue, même, semble désormais impossible. Est-ce aussi la conclusion que vous avez tirée de votre entretien avec Margaret Mead (1)?

Balet Meas (1) I ne pensais pas que nous pouvions trouver une voie commune. Elle a beaucoup de courage, de cœur et d'honnêteté intellectuelle. Mais, d'abord, il y a, entre nous, plus de vingt ans de différence. Ensuite, elle est ethnologue, c'est une autre recherche que la mienne. Moi, je n'ai jamais rien appris par mon esprit. I'ai tout appris par le cœur et les entrailles. Et, surtout, elle est blanche, Derrière ce que je dis, il y a Harlem, son église, la cuisine de ma mère, la musique, l'angolisie, tout le voyage du Noir américain. Ce voyage, il est impossible de le comprendre si on ne le nas filt.

l'a pas fait.
Ce dialogue entre Margaret Mead et moi, c'était un peu comme si on avait demandé à Ray Charles et à Frank Sinatra de Jouer ensemble. Cette

(1) « Le Racisme en question », éditions Calmann-Lévy.



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ANGELA DAVIS. e Elle est ma sœur. »

distance entre un homme noir qui vient de la rue et une ethnologue blanche qui n'a jamais crevé de faim, elle est énorme, infranchissable. Et si, avec la meilleure volonté du monde, nous ne sommes pas parvenus à nous mettre d'accord, c'est dire à quel point la situation peut être grave.

L'Expresa: Quel a été, disons, le

point de rupture? J. Baldwin: Margaret Mead refuse d'assumer la culpabilité de ce que d'autres Blancs ont fait avant elle ; le crime commis par ceux de sa race contre la race noire, ce péché contre le Saint-Esprit pour lequel il n'y a pas de pardon. Elle ne l'a pas commis, elle ne s'en sent pas coupable. Elle ne se sentirait coupable que de ce qu'elle-même pourrait avoir fait. Le reste appartient à l'Histoire. Mais, moi, je dis, chacun doit accepter l'Histoire qui l'a créé tel qu'il est. Car quelque chose ra cree tel qu'il est. Car quesque cnose descend d'une génération à l'autre. Lorsque nous parlons d' « Histoire », c'est trop souvent une facilité, un moyen d'échapper à la responsabilité de ce qui s'est passé. L'assassinat de Martin Luther King, ce n'est pas un événement historique, cela peut arriver encore, demain, avec un autre. C'est le présent. C'était mon frère, mon ami. Il ne s'agit pas de choses faites avant nous, il s'agit de choses faites devant nous, devant nos yeux. Le Noir pale, chaque jour, pour l'Histoire écrite dans la couleur de sa péair.

pas toujours infranchissable. L'Amérique du Sud, elle, a réussi son métis-

sage. J. Baldwin: Oui, mais il s'agissait d'une tout autre société. Le poids du puritanisme américain, il ne faut pas l'oublier. Car cette panique profonde qu'éprouvent les Blancs américains à l'égard des Noirs, elle n'est pas uniquement d'origine sociale. Elle a des racines sexuelles. Le mythe de la puissance sexuelle des Noirs, ce sont les Blancs qui l'ont créé, mais ils y croient profondément. Ce sont des phantasmes, bien sûr, mais des phantasmes blancs. Le Blanc est convaincu que si un Noir entre dans sa maison, ou passe dans la rue, il va enlever sa femme comme un paquet et qu'il sera incapable de la garder. C'est de la folie pure, mais c'est ainsi.

L'Express: Comment cela se mani-

feste-t-il ? J. Baldwin : Même lorsqu'un Américain libéral essaie loyalement de lutter contre le poids de l'Histoire, il découvre à quel point il est enchaîné. Demandez-lui, brutalement, en face : e Que feriez-vous si votre fille voulait épouser un Noir ? » Il vous dira : « J'espère que ce sera un type bien, qui la rendra heureuse. Mais il faudra vraiment qu'elle réfléchisse. Car, non, vraiment, la société n'est pas préparée à cela. »

L'Express : Le racisme, pour vous, a une origine sexuelle ?

I, Baldwin : La sexualité lui donne, en tout cas, une force. Personnellement, j'ai vécu ce cauchemar. Et j'ai dû enterrer tant de choses en moi-même que c'est un problème qu'il m'est pénible d'aborder. A cause de l'ambiguité totale des relations sexuelles entre Noirs et Blancs.

L'Express : Quelle ambiguïté ? J. Baldwin: Prenons l'exemple d'une jeune fille blanche de bonne famille qui se brouille avec son père, et quitte la maison. Que peut-elle faire de pire pour se venger de lui, l'humilier ? Coucher avec un Noir. Mais, moi, le Noir, qui ignore tout de ce drame, je pense qu'elle a été attirée par moi, qu'elle m'aime. Et, peu à peu, en vivant avec elle, je me rends compte qu'elle est là pour d'autres raisons. Lorsqu'on est jeune, que l'on croit à l'amour, il est affreux de se rendre compte qu'on est un instrument. Que l'on fait jouer à votre corps un rôle social et anonyme. Que l'être qui fait l'amour avec vous vous méprise. Que, même s'il ne vous méprise pas vous pensez qu'il. I. Baldwin Le Sud est terrifiant Je vous méprise. Et vous vous méprisez.

C'est la façon la plus horrible d'émasculer un homme.

L'Express : Cela vous est arrivé ? I. Baldwin : Oui, cela m'est arrivé. Et, après cela, on ne peut plus avoir confiance en qui que ce soit. Pour moi, d'ailleurs, non seulement le racisme est lié au sexe, mais la révolution l'est aussi. Voyez ce qui se passe avec les mouvements de libération des femmes, ou les mouvements de libération des homosexuels. Cette lutte qui commence contre l'espèce de bannissement, presque théologique, dont sont victimes les femmes, les Noirs, les homosexuels, tous enveloppés du même opprobre, du même mépris. L'idée qu'il faut mortifier sa chair est pour moi, tout simplement, obscène.

L'Express : N'y a-t-il pas maintenant, chez les Noirs, le même ostracisme l'égard de la communauté blanche ? Le même refus : « Ah non ! tu ne vas

pas épouser un Blanc! » I. Baldwin: C'est vrai. Il y a eu une époque où la grande ambition des Noira, c'était de « passer », de se fondre dans la communauté blanche. Un Noir respectable essayait d'épouser une Noire aussi e pâle » que possible. Un bon exemple, c'est le pasteur Adam Powell, qui avait un grand prestige auprès des Noirs, des femmes noires, parce qu'il était à peine teinté et qu'il avait les cheveux raides. Mais, depuis dix ans, les choses ont beaucoup changé. Ce n'est plus, aux yeux des jeunes Noirs, un avantage d'avoir la eau claire, c'est presque une tare. Les filles ont non seulement cessé de se défriser les cheveux, mais elles portent

des perruques à l'africaine. Cela a des côtés ridicules, mais c'est très significatif. Le Noir veut être noir, il veut vivre comme il lui plaît, et son plus selon les canons de la communauté blanche. Je me souviens de m'être trouvé à Chicago, comme journaliste, tous frais payés, donc, dans un de ces grands bôtels style Hilton, horriblement chers. Une nourriture aseptisée, sans goût, une clientèle d'automates, de morts ambulants. l'étais le seul Noir de l'établissement. Le soir, je n'avais qu'une idée : quitter ce mau-solée et aller à South Side, le ghetto noir de la ville, où ce que l'on mangealt avait du goût et où ies gens etalent vivants.

L'Express : Cette réaction ségréga-tionniste de la communauté blanche, elle est quand même beaucoup plus marquée au Sud qu'au Nord ?

L'Expresa : Le fossé, pourtant, n'est

### Le seul espoir de la société américaine c'est de se négrifier

ne l'ai d'aille "s découvert qu'en 1957. Et j'ai eu peur. Dans le Sud, si j'ouvre la bouche, j'ai tort. J'ai tort, même quand je regarde les gens. J'ai tort par ma seule existence. Je ne suis pas seulement un étranger dans la ville, je suis un ennemi. Les gens, là-bas, sont si enchaînes par leurs prejuges, si misérables dans leur façon de vivre, qu'ils en deviennent pathétiques. Ce doit être horrible d'être enfermé dans une telle prison morale et mentale. Affreux pour les femmes, surtout. Le mythe de la supériorité sexuelle des Noirs atteint là-bas à une sorte de démence. Le côté sexuel du problème est essentiel. C'est la racine du racisme. c'est le danger. D'un côté, le Noir est présenté comme un surhomme qu'il est interdit aux femmes blanches d'approcher. De l'autre, le Blanc compense sa prétendue infériorité... avec des femmes noires. C'est à la fois terrifiant et ridicule. Quand j'entre dans un restaurant, les Blancs ont peur. Au point que si j'insistais pour me faire servir, là où je ne dois pas manger, il m'arriverait malheur. Le Sud, c'est ça. Une prison dont on n'a aucun espoir de sortir, parce que l'élément essentiel d'identité pour chaque race, c'est de ne pas appartenir à l'autre race.

L'Express : Vous avez pourtant écrit : « Si la catastrophe arrive un jour, la renaissance ne pourra venir que du Sud. » Que voulez-vous dire ?

I. Baldwin: Parce que les gens vivent dans un tel cauchemar, qu'inconsciemment ils chercheront à se libérer. Pour sortir de cet enfer, le Sudiste aura un prix énorme à payer. Mais peut-être finira-t-il, précisément, par se dire : tout plutôt que cet enfer. Tandis que le Nordiste, lui, ne vit pas entouré de Noirs. Le Noir n'est pas un élément quotidien, permanent de sa vie. Il le proise dans l'ascenseur, sur un trottoir. Ce n'est pas son... paysage, Le voyage sera pour lui beaucoup plus long.
Je me souviens d'être arrivé un jour

Birmingham, en Alabama, fort tard dans la nuit. Ce qui, pour un Noir, n'est pas recommandé. Pour comble, portant une machine à écrire à la main. Dans le Sud, un Noir avec une machine à écrire est un homme dangereux. C'est pire que s'il transportait une bombe. Et, dans le Sud, un Noir ne prend pas le premier taxi venu, Il faut qu'un porteur aille demander à un employé de téléphoner à une station qui se trouve à quarante minutes de . J. Baldwin : Absolument. Alors qu'il a gare.

J'ai donc attendu, assis sur ma

machine. Et j'avais peur, parce que tous les gens qui passaient me dévisageaient, hostiles, agressifs. Au bout de quarante minutes, j'ai appris que l'em-ployé avait oublié de téléphoner. Avoir subi l'épreuve de l'attente sans incident, c'était un miracle. Recommencer, c'était fou. A ce moment-là, un chauf-feur de taxi blanc a proposé de m'em-mener. C'était contraire à la loi. Je me trouvais devant un dilemme. J'ai fini par partir avec lui, pas du tout rassuré. Et c'était un très brave type, qui a essayé de me parler. Mais il n'a pas pu. Parler à un Noir de New York, en Alabama, ce n'était pas possible. Moi non plus, je n'ai pas pu. D'un côte comme de l'autre, nous étions bloqués, à cause de cette ambiguîté, de cette suspicion dont nous ne pouvons pas sortir.

L'Express: Vous avez plusieurs fois employé le mot « peur ». Cette peur des Blancs, elle n'est pas uniquement d'origine sexuelle. De quoi ont-ils

peur

J. Baldwin: Les Blancs savent combien de fois ils m'ont mutilé, combien de fois ils m'ont castré, combien de fois ils m'ont pendu, brûlé, combien de fois ils ont violé ma femme. Ils le savent très bien. Leur prétendue innocence leur coûte un énorme effort de volonté. C'est pour cela qu'ils ne vont jamais à Harlem. C'est pour cela que la femme peut trouver du travail, alors que l'homme ne le peut pas. Car c'est de l'homme noir qu'ils ont peur. Ils ont peur qu'un jour cet homme noir vienne leur faire la même chose. L'Express : C'est plus que la défense de privilèges ?

J. Baldwin: Il y a cela, bien sûr. La crainte que l'oppresseur peut avoir de l'opprimé. Mais il s'agit d'une réaction plus personnelle, liée à la vie privée et inconsciemment compliquée par le fait de la couleur. On ne peut pas, paraît-il, ne pas avoir une réaction en face de la couleur. Lorsque les Européens sont arrivés en Amérique du Nord, pour sauvegarder leur pureté, leur intégrité, ils ont commence par exterminer les Indiens. Parce qu'ils descendaient d'une civilisation blanche et chrétienne, c'était, pour sux, le seul moyen de préserver leur identité. Tolérer les Indiens, c'était renoncer à leur héritage, à leur civilisation. Ce génocide les a menés sur le chemin de la folie. L'Expresa: Vous voulez dire que le racisme a été institutionnalisé?

ne repose sur aucune base ethnique. La race blanche n'est pas plus pure



qu'une autre. Il n'y a pas de race pure. Le racisme est déjà odieux lorsqu'il se manifeste à l'égard des Algériens, des Juifs, des Portugais ou des Irlandais. Mais, aux Etats-Unis, il est officialisé. Comme il l'était en Allemagne sous le III' Reich, C'est une situation fasciste. Et le drame est là. Nous ne demandons pas à être intégrés. Nous demandons qu'on nous laisse vivre. Un point c'est tout. Que tout le monde soit libre de vivre. Seulement, les structures sociales sont devenues si écrasantes qu'elles seront tôt ou tard insupportables et qu'il faudra les détruire.

L'Express : L'image des Etats-Unis a pourtant considérablement changé en dix ans. C'est une société en mouvement. N'y a-t-il pas là, pour vous, un espoir? Comment vous situez-vous, par exemple, par rapport au mouve-ment hippie?

J. Baldwin: Les hippies, c'est un peu le même phénomène que celui que j'évoquais tout à l'heure. Etre hippie pour un jeune Blanc de bonne famille, c'est prendre une sorte de revanche. C'est, comme coucher avec un Noir, un moyen d'humilier sa famille, de rejeter les conventions. C'est si vrai, que lorsqu'un garçon ou une fille devient hippin, pour la société, il devient un nigre. Nous, nous l'étions déjà!

L'Express : La société américaine, en quelque sorte, se négrifie?

J. Baldwin: Le seul espoir de la société américaine, c'est de se négrifier. C'est l'objet même de notre lutte. Il faut accepter que l'Amérique ne soit plus un pays blanc. Elle ne l'a d'ailleurs jamais été. Ça a toujours été un rève. Comment voulez-vous maintenir la fiction d'un pays blanc, où non seulement un habitant sur dix est un Noir, mais où les relations qu'il entretient avec le reste de la commu-nauté sont aussi équivoques et aussi passionnelles ?

L'Express: Comment expliquez-vous cette mise à l'écart du Noir, comme être humain, et son acceptation géné-

rale, comme artiste?

1. Baldwin : On accepte le Noir à condition qu'il reste à l'écart sur une scène. Ca, c'est notre rôle traditionnel. On faisait chanter et danser l'esclave et on lui jetalt des pièces, parce qu'il chantait et dansait si bien, avec tant de charme. C'est exactement la même chose maintenant, il n'y a rien de changé. Je me souviens de Mahalia Jackson. Elle chantait, à Chicago, devant des milliers de gens qui pleuraient, qui hurlaient, qui l'adoraient.

Ces mêmes gens ont brisé ses vitres, ont essayé de mettre le feu chez elle, ont écrit des obscénités sur ses murs, parce qu'elle avait osé acheter une maison dans un quartier blanc. Cette grande artiste n'avait pas le droit de vivre parmi les Blancs.

L'Express : Cet « amuseur noir », il a quand même marqué, par des apports essentiels, la culture du xoc siècle. Ne serait-ce que le cubisme, la musique de jazz... La culture noire, l'influence que peut exercer la civilisation noire, ce n'est pas, pour vous, une voie pos-sible?

J. Baidwin: Je pense, en effet, que c'est de cette manière, par les apports culturels, que l'on peut arriver à changer profondément la société. Notre façon d'entendre, de regarder, notre façon de sentir, de penser, peut contribuer à ces changements, y contribue nécessairement. C'est pour cela que je trouve à notre époque le mot révolution un peu romantique. C'est, en réalité, le fonds caché de l'humanité qu'il faut exploiter, pour troubler, établir la communication.

Changer le monde de cette façon, c'est beaucoup plus long qu'on ne le pense. Et ma seule raison de vivre, c'est de témoigner en ce sens. Je désire ce que tout le monde désire, et qui viendra, sous différents aspects, sous différentes formes. Mais, dans le prix à payer, il y a le tarif universel, et, pour certains, il y a les suppléments. Naitre, apprendre à marcher, grandir, vieillir, mourir, c'est difficile pour tout le monde. Personne n'a le droit d'ajouter à ces difficultés un supplément de prix, un fardeau insupportable : celui de la couleur de la peau.

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### SUMMARY FROM FRENCH

# P68

The article "L'Express Continues with James Baldwin" is taken from the August 21-27, 1972, issue of "L'Express."

Question:

You believe in the possible victory of the black minority?

Answert

We represent around 10% of the American population. Without talking about starting a revolution, it is certainly enough to destroy society.

Question:

In what way?

Answert

It is easy for us, for example, to make the cities uninhabitable. It is the Blacks who form the bulk of the urban services. In real estate, we are in the basement and the basement directs the life of the rest of the floors. It is very simple. In order to organize this type of resistance, it is not necessary to have a lot of people. And the war in Vietnam, in this regard, is very significant. That the most powerful country in the world, in twelve years, cannot manage to get the better of one of the poorest and

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

Ouestion:

In your opinion, is violence necessary or only inevitable?

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Answer:

You cannot speak of violence as if it could take place tomorrow. It is already there. But violence where, against whom? When President Mixon said: "We will not tolerate violence any Ronger," I still wonder to whom he was speaking. Who sust no longer tolerate it? He? Or us? Because the main victums of American violence are the Blacks. I would certainly prefer to be able to avoid violent confrontations. But it does not depend on the Blacks. The choice is not in their hands.

SUNMARIZED BY

September 25, 19/2

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You returned to the U.S. in 1957 because you Relt that something was stirring. Fifteen years later, you decided to live in - France, Thy?

THE WAR IN A TOTAL I decided to return to France and then to stay there after Martin Luther King's assassination in April of 1968. I hesitated for two years. And then, I felt that it was necessary to go away to begin again: as a writer, as a political militant, as a man. The death of Luther King was the end of a certain period of time in American politics in which I was closely involved. It was also the end of a certain hope.

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I do not know. That is very difficult to say today. Perhaps the methods used by Martin were not the most effective but they were, at that time, the strongest. Anyhow, I could not stand the idea of remaining in France, because they were trying to change me. I returned to work at Martin's and Malcolm X's side ..

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Yes. Hope in American morality.

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And you returned to France?

Yes, to breathe. And, to withdraw once again. To try and see clearly. I was very atrongly connected with the Black Panther Movement and I was afraid, then, of being useless to them. What they do is done by youths in a world which is already different from mine. The only way to help them is to contribute my support. To listen to them, to respect them, hoping sometimes to be heard. I am, after all, first a writer. If I do not find the time to reflect, to write, I will not be of any use to anyone. I would not have any reason for being. 

What do you think about Angela Davis?

She is much - 2 I do not know her personally. younger than I. She belongs to another generation. All I can do is listen and try to help while as anothere. I know that her trial is absurd. The only fault she has is being a bad example for the other slaves. Angela Davis and Paul Robeson are, in the eyen of the Whites, bad "niggers."

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Paul Robeson went through the world as if the, world belonged to him. The Whites cannot stand to be surrounded by black people. It is necessary to quickly give an example. Angela Davis answered Ronald Reagan that she was a communist. The problem was not what she was accused of. What does the answer matter when you have no right to ask the question anyway? Whether I do or do not agree with her ideas means nothing. As I am 20 years older than she is, I necessarily have another viewpoint. Anyhow, she is n victim. Therefore she is my sister.

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Do you believe that the cultural contributions of the Black civilization can influence

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Tangent, I believe that it is in this way, through cultural contributions, that you can manage to profoundly change society Our way of listening, seeing, feeling, thinking can contribute to these changes. It is for this reason that I find the word "revolution," in this day and age, to be a bit romantic. It is, in reality, the hidden fountains of humanity that one must exploit, in order to disconcert, to establish communications.

To be born to learn to walk, to grow up, to grow old, all this is difficult for everyone. No one has the right to add another problem, that of the color of one's skin.

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Answer:

Yes, I believe that it is in this way, through cultural contributions, that you can manage to profoundly change society Our way of listening, seeing, feeling, thinking can contribute to these changes. It is for this reason that I find the word "revolution," in this day and age, to be a bit romantic. It is, in reality, the hidden fountain of humanity that one must exploit, in order to disconcert, to establish communications.

To be born, to learn to walk, to grow up, to grow old, all this is difficult for everyone. No one has the right to add another problem, that of the color of one's skin.

The following documents appearing in FBI files have been reviewed under the provisions of The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552a); The Privacy Act of 1974 (PA) (Title 5, United States Code, Section 552a); and/or Litigation.

FOIAIPA	☐ Litigation	☐ Executive Order Applied
Requester: Ted Ago Subject: Computer or Case Identification Number C	James Della	win
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Computer or Case Identification Number:		
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*File		Section
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Release Location; *File		Section
□ FOIA/PA	☐ Litigation	☐ Executive Order Applied
Requester:		
Subject: Computer or Case Identification Number:		
Title of Case:		Section
Serials Reviewed:		- Country - Coun

\*INDICATE IF FBIHQ OR FIELD OFFICE FILE NUMBER.

(THIS FORM IS TO BE MAINTAINED AS THE TOP SERIAL OF THE FILE, BUT NOT SERIALIZED.)

RNMENT UNITED STATES GO MemorandumDATE: 9/19/62 DIRECTOR, FBI FBI LABORATORY ATTENTION: SAC, WFQ (145-0) 403878/1 JAMES BALDWIN; THE BIAL PRESS NEW YORK, NEW YORK SUBJECT: written by JAMES BALDWIN. This book was published in 1962 by the Dial Press, New York, New York, This novel was Morals Division, M Metropolitan Police Department. In many aspects it is similar to the "Tropic" books by MILLER. It need not It need not be returned. 3 - Bureau (Enc.1) VJG:mpc ( EACHSSTRE (4) Later Pich SEP 21 1962 EX-113 BALOMIN 1620

Transmittal Form



### FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D. C.

To: FBI, Washington Field Office (145-0) Date: October 3, 1962

Ro: JAMES BALDWIN; THE DIAL PRESS NRW YORK, NEW YORK ITOM

John Edgar Hoover, Director FB5C+- 126 Lab. No.

D-403878

Examination requested by:

Washington Field Office

Reference:

Letter 9/19/62

Examination requested:

Document

Remarks:

	Mantel SH 2 1 JUSTICE
CWB: ch (4)	OCT - 3 1962 COMM-FBI
Tolson Selmont Moham Selmont S	GEMERAL INVESTIGATION OF
Rosen	DOM TELETYPE UNIT

1621



7-1b



### REPORT of the





## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION WASHINGTON, D. C.

FBI, Washington Field Office

Date: FBI File No. October 3, 1962 145-2625

JAMES BALDWIN; THE DIAL PRESS NEW YORK, NEW YORK ITON Lab. No.

D-403878 AV

Specimens received

9/21/62

Q1 One hard-bound book entitled "Another Country" written by James Baldwin

#### Result of examination:

The book described above as specimen Q1 was not identified with material of a similar nature which has been forwarded previously to the Laboratory.

Specimen Ql is being added to the Bureau's files.

QI add & to O.F.

(\h) CWB: ch (4)

Belmont
Mohr
Collahan
Conrod
Del.ouch
Evons
Molone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tovel
Trotter
Tele, Room
Holmes
Gandy

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

Bygins





Recorded 9/26/62 ch

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NO LAB FILE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: JAMES BALDWIN; THE DIAL PRESS NEW YORK, NEW YORK

File # 145-2625-D-403878 AV

Examination requested by:

Washington Field Office (145-0)

9/19/62

Examination requested:

Document

Date received:

Examination by:

9/21/62

Result of Examination:

1. N.I. QI in QF.

Specimens submitted for examination

Q1 One book entitled "Another Country" written by James Baldwin

(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

### **BOOK CHARGES** REFUSED BY DA

maps 'Censorship' Baldwin Novel

Decrying "censorship," Dist. Jim Garrison refused resday to take charges against llers of a book by controversi-Negro novelist James Bald-

arrison attacked the police e on a dozen or more such oks and the arrest of book ore employes.

Frank P. Rossetter, 55, maner of the Doubleday Book pre, 633 Canal, and an emoye, George E. Deville, 17, ere arrested by police vice uad officers for selling the vel, "Another Country," by Wor James Baldwin.

COPIES SEIZED olice confiscated all copies the book. 1 7 1 502

book store is part of a forwide chain. The comowledge no other arrests been made because of fing "Another Country" and it the book has not been ded obscene elsewhere.

be police file on books and The police file on books and polications ruled obscene by the police of the city attorney's of the is about two inches thick and consists mainly of magazines and paperback novels. The Baldwin book and the Tropic, of Cancer. by Henry the policy of the pol filler are the only two writby nationally known aublishing houses.

IDEA IS ASSAILED

Fairtison said, "The idea of police officer walking into legitimate bookstore, remova book from the shelf that a noon from the snear that twritten by a reputable autor and has been critically tlaimed and then arresting store manager is outrageous. It disregards the tundagital concepts of freedom of ression and freedom of the All that is needed now is to e a ceremony in which the ess are burned.

On my opinion the employes Doubleday did not commit offense. T mink there is no ace in this city for censor ip ... it is true some perrsons may consider the book ofscene. However, many others ay not and it should be left un to the individual to decide. Those persons who consider obscene don't have to read

Mr. Tolson Mr. Relmont Mr. My Mr. Mr. Conrad The Holosoph Mr. Evans Mr. Gale Mr. Rosen J Mr. Suliivan Mr. Tavel .. Mr. Troster Tele. Room .\_ Miss Holmes. Miss Gundy,

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.) Page 3 Sec. 3

THE TIMES PICAYUNE NEW ORLEANS, LA.

6/19/63 Date:

Edition: Authors

Editor:

Title:District Attorney Orleans Parish, La.

Character:

Classification: 80-

Submitting Office: New Orleans

NOT RECORDED 191 **JUL 3 1963** 

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(Mount Clipping in Space Below)



Mr. Tolson
Mr. Belment
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Mcgr
Mr. Celral
Mr. Cerval
Mr. Cerval
Mr. Cerval
Mr. Cerval
Mr. Fully
Mr. Gall
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Sellier
Mr. Tracel
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Mr. Tellal
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Mr. Sellier
Mr. Sellier
Mr. Sellier
Mr. Tellal
Mr. Tellal
Mr. Tellal
Mr. Sellier
Mr. Miss Ill Gill Si

Miss Charles

# CHARGES IN CITY COURT READIED

Book Store Manager Target, Says Pinner

Edward Pinner, assistant city attorney, said Thursday night that charges against the manager of Doubleday Book Store here will be filed Friday in Municipal Court.

Similar charges were originally brought to District Attorney Jim Garrison, who refused to accept the charges and the police department arrest "censorship."

The charges are being brought in connection with the store manager's displaying and selling the controversial novel "Another Country" by Negro author tames Baldwin, who is frequently bitter in condemnation of racial segregation.

The book, with a plot set in the lower socio-economic strata of New York City, hit the best seller list shortly after publication last year and has been under fire ever since from groups who brand it as osbeene.

Pinner said that the manager, after having been informed that sale of the book would be in violation with city ordinances pertaining to the sale of obscene and pornographic literature, kept the book on the shelves.

kept the book on the shelves. He said that the race issue in the novel had no bearing on the city attorney's charges. Several intervacial 'relationships are chronided in the Baldwin book.

Pinner said that after reading the book he was convinced that "It is the most filthy and pornographic book I have ever read, and I am shocked that persons could condone the sale of such !Iterature, which is so sickening that if the obscenity were removed, you'd have nothing but the covers left."

Bre Clinds

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

Page 7 Sec. 1

THE TIMES PICAYUNE NEW ORLEANS, LA.

7 11

Date: 6/21/63

Author:

THE DISTRICT Attorney Orleans Parish, La.

Character:

or Classification: 80-

Submitting Office New Orleans

NOT RECORDED 184 JUL 3 1963

**5**6 JU 9

1625

Mr. Herbert J. Miller, Jr. Assistant Attorney General

America 15, 1963

Director. FBI

James Baldwin

"ANOTHER COUNTRY" THE DIAL PRESS INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF OBSCINE NATIER

Enclosed herewith in response to the telephonic request of Mr. Carl W. Belcher of your Division en ingust W. 1983, is a copy of the book, Amether Country," by James Baldwin. This book was furnished to our Washington Field Office in September, 1962, by the Merals Division of the Metropolitan Pelice Department, Washington, D. C. He investigation has been conducted by the Bernard and Ametropolitan Pelice Department. this Bureau concerning the interstate transportation of same in pessible violation of the Interstate Transportation of Obscene Matter Statute.

It is requested that this book be returned upon completion of your review.

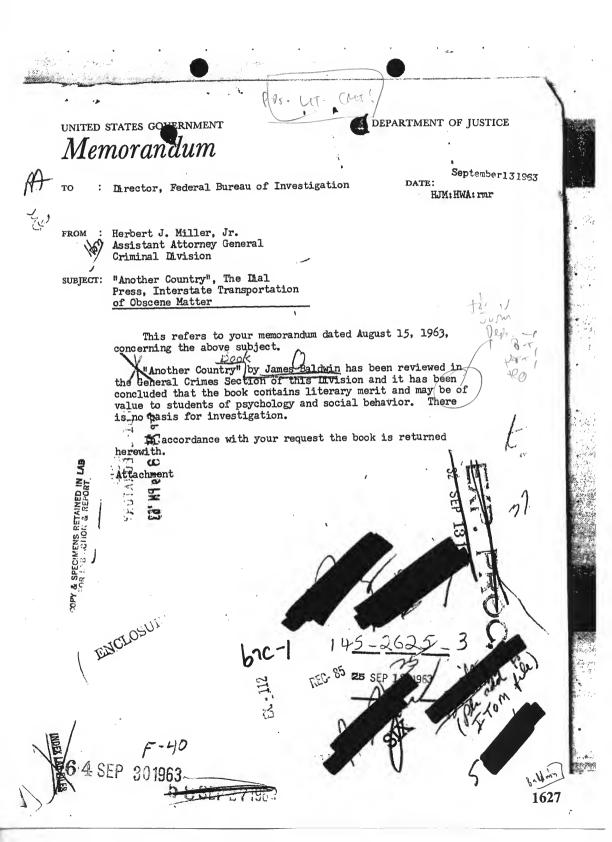
#### Enclosure

145-2625gtt-03<sup>jy</sup> 1 - Mr. 19 AUG 15 1963 JAC: mltmlt b7c-1 (5) HOTE:

Mr. Belcher telephonically inquired of SA on 8-9-63 as to whether we had available a copy of instant book, stating they had received several citizens' inquiries concerning same and desired to review itsice This book submitted to Bureau by WFO letter dated 190 1916291 Bureau file 145-2625.

e at minist Aug 15 9 29 4H 763 MARLED 2 Talson AUG 1 5 1963 Belmont . Mahr \_\_\_\_ Casper Callahan . Conrad \_ AUG 191963 Evens Gale -Sullivan . Trotter Halmes MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT Gandy .

1626



J. EDGA HOURA, "SECVLANIA"..." J. Will Massell Pauls Pl. or Vtd January 28, 1965

REC. 120 1 45- 2625- 4 Fort Worth, Texas Dear Your letter dated January 22nd has been received; The concern prompting your writing me is very much appreciated; however, your communication does not 1-13 present facts indicative of any violation of Federal law coming within the investigative jurisdiction of the FBI. I am referring a copy of your letter to postal authorities. Enclosed are publications which express my views on the widespread accessibility of obscene and pornographic literature. MANIED TO Sincerely yours. JANES OFFICE 1. Edgar Hooved Secumin - Inan . F Enclosures (4) Combating Merchants of Filth: The Role of the FBI Let's Wipe Out The Schoolyard Sex Racket! The Fight Against Filth 1-60 LEB Intro NOTE: Correspondent is not identifiable in Bufiles. Copy of incoming sent to PO Dept. by form. DeLaach Callahan DCL:pp (3) Cantad \_ Felt \_ Gale \_ Sullivan 965 AAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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FBI/DOJ

Cover Sheet for Informant Report or Moterial FD-306 (3-21-58)

ate received	Receive him (same or symbol number)	Received by
3-21-88		SA
lethod of delivery (ch	seck appropriate blocks)	
in person	Aby telephone by mail orally	recording device written by informant
orally furnished and	reduced to writing by Agent;, Date	Date of Report
Dictated	to	Date(s) of activity
Transcribed	<del></del>	
Authenticated by Informant		3-21-68
rief description of ac	tivity or material	ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
James Art	hum Baldwin(100-71281)00. MV	HEREIA IS UNCLASSITIED DATE 5-30-89 RYDP3 (573/04)
		Flie where original is located if not attache

aid Baldwin under contract to Marvin Worth Productions, 1438 N. Gower St., L. A. to write a treatment on the Screen story to be used in a proposed film; The Life of Malcolm X ", to be produced by Marvin Worth Productions for Columbia Pictures Corp. release. Columbia Pictures has an option on the work being done by Baldwin, in their contract with Worth, where by if Columbia likes the treatment Ealdwin will proceed with the full screen script. If not of course some other writer would be obtained.

No contact has been had with Baldwin by source, all restions have been done by worth through Baldwins! Agent Robert Lanz, 111 1. 57th St., NY, NY. No L.A. or Palm Springs or other local address has been obtained on Baldwin. Source understood Baldwin was currently in Palm Springs.

for Baldwin's address in Palm Springs. Worth said Baldwin comes into the studio now and then and to send the mailer worth's office and worth would see that Baldwin gets them. Worth works very closely with Baldwin. Source said he could not discreetly get the address from worth with out making an issue of it and did not recommend trying it. He had no other source.

A pretecal to worth Productions, 3-21-68, seeking Baldwin's address in Palm Springs for a potential speaking engagement for the Peace and Freedom Party, ascertained from a female secretary that Baldwin was out of Palm Springs temporary and declined to give the address or say where he was or would return.

SEARCHED INDEXED SERIALIZED FILED SERIALIZED FILED SERIALIZED FILED SERIALIZED SERIALIZE

brezl



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

Rosenberg & Worth Plan

Lenny Bruce'
Marvin With, who Is set to produce "Malcolm X" at Columbia with James Baldwin writing the script, has added "The Lenny Bruce Story" to his schedule with Stuart Rosenberg as director. Negotiations are now for a director for "Malcolm X" and a writer for the "Bruce" yarm, From present indications both project may go simultaneously in the fall.

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

\_PAGE 4 - Hollywood - Reporter

Date: 3-14-68 Edition: Holly WOUD

Editor: 9 mm is Powiers Title:

Character:

Classification: Submitting Office:

Being Investigated

106-71381-3

SEARCHED ...... MEDICKED SERIALIZED FILE OF 1968

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FBI/DOI

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

### *1emorandum*

TO

: SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-71381)

b10-1

FROM

: SA

SUBJECT: JAMES ARTHUR BALDWIN

SN-C

00: New York

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED 30-89 BY DS

, DATE: 5/21/68

Re New York airtel to the Bureau, 3/14/68.

on 4/1/68. (Conceal), advised that he had asked

INUMAN COPOTE, the Well-known author, if JAMES BALDWIN was staying in Palm Springs. He was advised by COPOTE that BALDWIN is staying in some friends house in Palm Springs while he is re-writing some portions of his book, "Malcom X". COPOTE could not recall the name of the street but said it was some "Circle" about a mile from downtown Palm Springs.

on 4/8/68, Palm Springs (Conceal), advised JAMES BALDWIN was receiving mail at 822 Topaz Circle, Palm Springs. He did not know if this BALDWIN was identical with subject. On 4/30/68 and 5/13/68, spot checks at 822 Topaz Circle failed to observe the individual living at that address.

#### LEAD

#### LOS ANGELES

AT PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA: Will continue efforts to determine if subject temporarily residing in Palm Springs.



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FBI/DOJ

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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FBI/DOJ

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1983 EDITION GSA GENL REG. NO. 27



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

### Memorandum

то

SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-71381)

DATE: 6/19/68

FROM

SA

167C-1

SUBJECT:

JAMES ARTHUR BALDWIN

SM - C

00: New York

brc-8

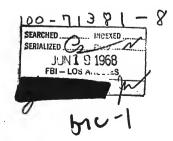
On 6/11/68, (Conceal), Palm Springs, California, advised that on 4/30/68, JAMES BALDWIN, 822 Topaz Circle, Palm Springs, issued a change of address to 1230 Ia Colina, Beverly Hills, California. Checked with the postal carrier and he advised that JAMES BALDWIN was a Negro.

He advised that on 5/7/68, JAMES BALDWIN issued another change of address to have all mail forwarded to 1326 Benedict Canyon, Beverly Hills, California.

The Beverly Hills city directory revealed that E.F. LYNCH resides at 1230 La Colina and E. E. HATTER resides at 1326 Benedict Canyon. Both Beverly Hills.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATES - 30-39 BY DP 8 (57 7) 089

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## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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IV-15 LA Times
Los Angeles, Calif.

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1682

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10 MAY 1962 EDITION GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

### Memorandum

TO

SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-19333)

Pic-1

CONFIDENTIAL

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINS
RETEIN IN UNCLASSIFIED
EXCEPT WHERE SHOWN
OTHERS

DATE: 10/2/68

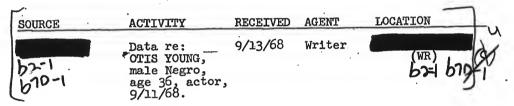
FROM

SA

. SUBJECT:

COMINFIL RADIO & TV INDUSTRY

IS-C



Informant's report has been Xeroxed and is attached.

#### ACTION:

Informant was thoroughly interviewed concerning the above and could add nothing further.

All necessary action in connection with this memo has been taken by the writer.

INDEX:

OTIS YOUNG, TV actor, male Negro Age 36 (1968)

OR DECLASSIFIED BY OF THE CHASSIFIED BY OADR 5:30-8

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CC: (RACIAL MATTERS)

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LFW:LAL
(4) L Read by LFLJ

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CONFIDENTIAL

1683

### COMPROXITIAL

Written Sept.12th'68

Video-tape recording session Wri-Ordered by SCREEN GEMS -This took place at KHJ-TV Studios 5515 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles, Calif. --8:00pm to 9:00pm-Wed. Sept. 11th 68

page -1-

This WAS NOT a BROADCAST. -- Time of release is not known.

Where it is to be released is not known.

Interview with MR. OTIS YOUNG who is the featured character in a series which has been completed or is in the process of being completed --for release on (believed to be) TV NETWORK, in the near future.

MR. YOUNG is a negro. He stated that he was 36 years old. He went to school as a young boy in PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

HEIGHT--not known
WEIGHT--lighter than average
AGE--stated as 36--probably older.
EYES--dark brown
HAIR--black
COMPLEXION--dark--not VERY dark for a negro,
but darker than medium.
SPEECH--sounded like a negro; but not like
someone from the deep south.

The MC who interviewed him. NAME NOT KNOWN. Dressed very correctly in a business suit. Spoke very correctly and made not statements indicating his own point of view.

MR. OTIS made statements as follows, in substance: --

He was to become the HERO of a LARGE SEGMENT of NEGRO YOUTHS, due to the part which he was to, or would bee seen portraying in the forthcoming television series.

The MC asked "What kind of a hero are you going to be to the black children?"

(Direct answer not remembered). YOUNG said (about himself):
Here is a negro man. He is bitter. He is hostile

Channe A. II



VTR recording session 9-11'68 for SCRFEN GEMS at KHJ-TV Studios.

written 9-12-68

page -2-

Statements made by MR. OTIS YOUNG--continued (in substance)-

(MR. YOUNG) -- First you've got to make a country. -- If you're going to let the BLACK MILITANTS control the press you had better start packing your bags and get out of the country, because they are going to start mowing 'em down.

As long as they keep on buying riot control weapons instead of letting the black people in the ghettos (could have been say or find out what the problems are)—then you had better start learning some profession or occupation you can use to earn a living in some other country. He (Young) would rather—be OUT of this GOD DAMNED COUNTRY and LIVE than STAY & DIE.

MC.—Where would you go?

(MR. YOUNG) -- I don't know. This is the greatest country in the world. -- That's it. -- I don't know WHERE I would go.

The CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT has PASSED with the passing of GODFREY CAMERIDGE, DICK GREGORY, and (one other).-GREGORY was a great comedian. He could laugh.--They were both great comedians. They could IAUGH AT THE PLIGHT OF THE NEGRO,--but they CAN'T LAUGH any more.

The successful negro has turned his back on the other negroes. They should HELP THEM. --There is not a single successful negro who has NOT turned his back on the other negroes. Can YOU NAME ONE?

MC. Made no reply.
(Mr. YOUNG continued):
JAMES BALDWIN has turned his back.--He is a "WHITE MAN". He
is living in BERLIN. ADAM CLAYTON POWELL is a "WHITE MAN".
He hasn't lived in HARLEM for years.--

Why do they ask BALDWIN in Berlin why they rioted in Harlem? Why don't they ask the man in street why they are rioting? POWELL has been a legislator for years. He has worked at making the laws & then when the courts tell him to pay that woman a reasonable amount he wont obey the law.

Mind



VTR recrdng session 9-11-68

written 9-12-68

for SCREEN GEMS

--Statements by MR. OTIS YOUNG--continued-: page -3-

MC-Have you had any difficulty with the producers or the networks in making this series in which you star?

MR. YOUNG .-- SCREEN GEMS have been o.k. Everything worked out all right .-- But the NFT-WORKS are scared to death. They have tried to tone it down and treat it differently--but it is going to go on the way it is supposed to be (or as it has been produced.)

It isn't going to be like "I SPY"

MC-What do you think of "JULIE" (or "JULIA")

MR. YOUNG --- This series is totally unreal. It is the way \*\*\* the powerful interests in this country want us to believe . things are. JULIE is a beautiful young negress working for a white doctor. This doctor is working with JUIE all the time and NEVER MAKES A PASS AT HER. That is totally unreal. That NEVER happens.

"JULIE" is a negress who does NOT EXIST.

The negro is not the only one who is being "Sold" on the idea that he is well off the way things are in this country.

There is a small small group of white men which has been holding down the rest of the white population, just as they have been the negroes---they want to "SFLL"THE other WHITES and NEGROES on the idea that they are well off .-- THEY are the ones who want the networks to show only shows like "JULIF" (In order to build the illusion of "well being" to the people) When he was a little boy in PROVIDENCE RHODE ISLAND, his teacher told him that any boy could grow up to be president of the US. NOW he is glad he isn't going to be president of of the US. None of the present candidates are any good.

interests"

(\*\*\*YOUNG mentioned WESTINGHOUSE as one of the "powerful .

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10
MAY IRRE EDITION
SAS GEN. RIG. NO. 37
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

### Memorandum

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (157-9335)

DATE: 11/4/68

FROM

: SAC, LOS ANGELES (157-2255) (P)

SUBJECT: CHANGED

MALCOLM X ORGANIZATION
OF AFRO-AMERICAN UNITY, aka
Malcolm X Foundation
RM

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATES-SO-99BY-5803016

Title changed to reflect the true name of captioned organization as the MALCOLM X ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-AMERICAN UNITY, formerly carried as Malcolm X Foundation, RM.

Re Los Angeles letters to the Bureau, dated 7/16/68, and 10/31/68.

On 10/14/68. (PROB), advised that he had been contacted by to set up

2 - Bureau (RM)
Los Angeles
(1 - 100-60888)
- 100-71381)

JEW/mlj

**OFFICE COPY** 

100-71381-20

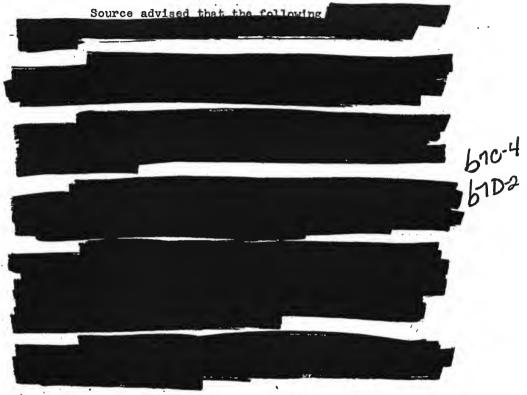
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Source stated that the MALCOLM X ORGANIZATION OF AFRO-AMERICAN UNITY was chartered by the Secretary of State of California on 8/6/66, and the charter was filed 11/3/66, Number 517568, meaning that the organization is a corporate concern operating in the State of California.

LA 157-2255

100

mgeles indices are negative on
and
Public reference material reveals that
was mentioned in referenced Los Angeles letter
to the Bureau dated 7/16/68.

participated in a demonstration on -6/19/68, sponsored by the SCLC, held in front of the Federal Building in Los Angeles, California, in support of the Poor People's Campaign. Los Angeles indices contain no other pertinent information concerning his participation in Racial Matters.

67C4

is the subject of Bureau file and JAMES BALDWIN is the subject of Bureau file 62-108763.

Since the above information is available only to it is felt that dissemination could it is felt that dissemination could of considerable value, and for that reason the above information is not being disseminated.

	Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in explain this deletion.	the	file. One or more of the f	ollowing	statements, where indicated,		
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FBI/DOI

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